

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



487763

CHECK LIST - WASTEWATER FACILITY

- 1) Drain Field - It was suggested that we put in a drain field rather than have our septic go to the ponds.

I called one company to give us an estimate on a drain field. After talking to them I decided that we could go no further until we talk to the Ionia County Health Department because:

- a) They have to issue a permit to put in a drain field.
- b) On the permit is the location suitable for a drain field, how much tile we would need, how big the field would have to be, and the size of tile needed, etc.

Without the above information, no company could give us an estimate.

- 2) Amount of septic generated per day:

→ to the pond (includes new)
Gary has been measuring the outfall and all information is very inconclusive. Depending on the time of day, etc. the outfall measures from 5,000 to 25,000 gal per day. A more accurate way of measuring would be to have the city put meters on water going into restrooms.

- 3) 10 PPM Oil - If we dredge all 3 ponds, we can stay within the 10 ppm oil limit. Dredging first pond only won't help because there is a build up of oily sludge at 3rd pond outlet and that's where we test.

We can guarantee 10 ppm oil from the clarifier.

- 4) Sludge in Ponds:

In first pond, approximate amount of sludge is 15,750 cubic feet or 118,125 gallons.

5) Cleaning of first pond:

I called three companies for estimates on dredging or pumping the pond; Industrial Disposal - Grand Rapids, Chem-Met Services - Detroit, and Approved Industrial Removal - Grand Rapids.

The first two companies refused to even come out and give us a rough estimate without having the sludge tested first. The third company, Approved Industrial Removal agreed to come out and look at the situation.

Upon Mr. Bob Ellis' arrival from Approved Industrial Removal, we learned immediately that: this project can't be accomplished in a short time period and it is a lot more complex than we thought.

The following is my idea of what steps we have to take in order to have the pond cleaned:

- 1) We have to have the sludge tested for all critical materials we handle and PCB's. This test will determine how we can dispose of the sludge. It can either be buried in a hole on our land (hole must be lined with at least 6 ft. of clay), it can be hauled away to be used as landfill or incinerated. If the sludge contains PCB's, most likely it will have to be hauled out of state.
- 2) If we are able to bury this sludge on our land, it has been recommended that we hire a geological firm to determine the location of the hole and location of any test wells if they are needed.
- 3) The Resource Recovery Division - State of Michigan has the final say on what we do with the sludge taken from the first pond. When we hire a company to remove this sludge, they will apply for all permits necessary to dispose of it. I am not sure if they would apply for the permit to bury this sludge on our land.

Regardless, permits have to be obtained to move the sludge from one place to another, even if it is on our own land.

- 4) After we have the sludge tested and volume determined the permit can be applied for. This may take a month and if we need a geological firm, and a hole dug to meet specification, and test wells dug, we are talking about weeks maybe months of work.